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INFO	LOG-00 CG-00 SRPP-00 VC-00 L-00 NSCE-00 PM-00 STR-00 PRM-01	NP-00 CIAE-00 DS-00 FRB-00 VCE-00 OCS-03 PRS-00 USIE-00 DRL-02	AID-00 CTME-00 EB-00 H-01 MMP-00 OES-01 ACE-00 USSS-00 G-00	A-00 INL-00 EXIM-01 TEDE-00 M-00 OIG-03 P-00 ASDS-01 NFAT-00	CA-02 DINT-00 E-00 INR-00 AC-01 OMB-01 SCT-00 EPAE-00 SAS-00	CCO-00 DODE-00 FAAE-00 INSE-00 NRCE-00 OPIC-01 SP-00 PMB-00 /020W Z /38	CEA-01 DOTE-00 FBIE-00 ITC-01 NSAE-00 PA-00 SSO-00 DSCC-00	
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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BOGOTA 008276

STATE FOR WHA/AND, WHA/EPSC
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TREASURY FOR OASIA
COMMERCE FOR 4331/IEP/OLA/AND/GAISFORD AND FOR
3134/USFCS/OIO/WH/DLUTTER
ENERGY FOR HENRY SANTIAGO, DAVID PUMPHREY, AND GARY WARD

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/18/10

TAGS: EPET, ENRG, PTER, PGOV, EINV, CO SUBJ: U'WA BREAK OFF TALKS WITH THE GOC

CLASSIFIED BY ANNE W. PATTERSON. REASONS: 1.5(B) AND (D)

REF: BOGOTA 6200 AND PREVIOUS

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON DATE/CASE ID: 19 MAY 2004 200303455

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(C) SUMMARY: NATIONAL MEDIA REPORTED AND THE HUMAN RIGHTS OMBUDSMAN'S OFFICE OF INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS CONFIRMED THAT THE U'WA INDIANS WITHDREW FROM TALKS WITH THE GOC CONCERNING DEVELOPMENT OF THE SAMORE BLOCK, A CONCESSION OF U.S.-BASED OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM (OXY), ON SEPTEMBER 14. THIS OCCURRED AFTER THE GOC'S AGRARIAN REFORM AGENCY GAVE THE STATE OIL COMPANY AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE LANDS WITHIN A 1,489 HECTARE ZONE SURROUNDING OXY'S EXPLORATORY DRILL SITE, INCLUDING TWO SMALL FARMS OWNED BY THE INDIGENOUS GROUP.

B1

(C) THE U'WA INDIANS HAVE WITHDRAWN FROM TALKS WITH THE GOC CONCERNING DEVELOPMENT OF THE SAMORE BLOCK, A CONCESSION OF U.S.-BASED OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM (REFTEL). THE U'WA CONFIDENTIAL

08276 01 OF 02 BOGOTA PAGE 03 UNILATERALLY SUSPENDED THE DIALOGUE AFTER A SEPTEMBER 14 RULING BY THE GOC AGRARIAN REFORM AGENCY ("INCORA") IN FAVOR OF AN ENERGY MINISTRY REQUEST TO CREATE A 1,489 HECTARE BUFFER ZONE AROUND OXY'S EXPLORATORY DRILL SITE, GIBRALTAR-THE RULING IN EFFECT GIVES ECOPETROL AUTHORITY TO EXPROPRIATE WITH COMPENSATION PROPERTIES WITHIN THE ZONE.

THE TALKS.

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TAGS: EPET, ENRG, PTER, PGOV, EINV, CO SUBJ: U'WA BREAK OFF TALKS WITH THE GOC

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